Instrumental Camp
During week 6 of school, two of our students went to Yeppoon for Instrumental Band Camp. Lucy Baulch and Gabrielle Dhu had a wonderful time. Camp was not all about playing their instruments but also included activities on the beach. Students came from all the primary schools in the district and combined in a concert Friday afternoon at Fitzgerald State School.

Fanfare
On Tuesday 10th June Walkerton State School Senior Concert Band competed in the regional competition Fanfare. We were fortunate enough to receive a bronze certificate. A big thank you to Mrs Haworth for all her hard work. Well done all those students involved.

Megaband
On Wednesday 11th June Marian, Mirani and Walkerston junior instrumental students combined for an all day workshop. Thank you to the Mirani High students who came to help mentor. The students combined after lunch for a concert playing pieces they had learnt that day only. Thank you to Mrs Haworth, Miss Brett and Miss Patch for running this workshop for students.

Chess Competition by Joshua Harding
On the 2nd of May, a number of students from Walkerston State School travelled to Victoria Park State School to compete in the Queensland Interschool Chess Championships. Over 200 chess players came to compete. Each player played 7 games against different students from their own or other schools.

Everyone was playing for points. If you won a game, you could get a point. If you drew, you would earn half a point and if you lost, you would not get any points. From 9am to 2pm, we played our hardest—winning, losing and drawing. We achieved very good scores overall.

Sean Baker achieve a 1st place medal for winning all 7 of his games. Congratulations to Sean! We also had Jye Barker who won a merit award for winning 6 of his games. Everyone else did great as well. Sean won the chess tournament for the primary division. Also the Walkerston Red Team, which included Sean Baker, Jye Barker, Joshua Harding and Jamison Harder, came 3rd for having the third greatest number of points.

We all enjoyed the Chess Competition and recommend you learn how to play (if you don’t already know how to) and compete.
**Principal’s Report**

**Missing school and the challenges of returning**

This edition of the newsletter finds me confined to a bed with an unexpected illness. I’ve been struck by how quickly I've missed the daily routines of school and being part of a focused and hard-working team. And it’s on this point that I would like to draw a parallel between my own experience and that of students who are absent from school on a frequent basis. Late last term I raised the prospect of following up on students with unacceptably high levels of absenteeism, including the possibility of taking legal action.

Already this term we have provided support to some students for whom going to school is a continual challenge. But speaking from my own vantage point here, the longer we stay away from school, the harder it may become to return at a later date. A lot can happen at school over three or four days, which can make any attempt to return more challenging than it needs to be. What I would like to remind both students and parents/caregivers of here is that first and foremost we want our kids at school every day that their health permits. If you find that on recovering from an illness, attending school appears to be a problem, we have a great student-support team here who are willing to try whatever it takes to sort this problem out.

**Central Queensland Principal’s Conference in Gladstone**

Late last month I attended the CQR Principals’ Conference in Gladstone. This was the first opportunity that principals in the region had to hear firsthand some of the key initiatives that the new Director-General of the Department of Education, Training and Employment (DETE), Dr Jim Waterson, intends to introduce. One initiative that I think is certainly worth sharing here is about changes in the Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) sector, which basically covers children from kindergarten and daycare through to Prep and Year One. For the very first time, an Early Childhood Education and Care Division has been created, which basically puts ECEC at the same status as the Schools Division and VET. More than a symbolic gesture, it reinforces the importance of early childhood in terms of determining the future success students have at school. On a more practical level, this initiative will also see increased resourcing at a regional level to support the transition from kindy and day care to school. This could include making sure that before children begin Prep that they have had opportunities to develop the fine motor skills needed to hold a pencil properly. It could also involve schools and kindergartens working together to develop similar approaches to the teaching of literacy.

**The Large Fan has been installed**

Thanks to the P and C we now have a large fan installed in the hall. Even at a very slow speed it moves a great volume of air creating a much larger cooling effect than the four small noisy wall fans we had previously.

**Report Cards released in last week of Term 2**

As the end of the semester approaches staff are busily preparing the students report cards which will be sent home late in the last week. As we move towards adopting the whole of the Australian Curriculum, a student’s achievement in subjects is assessed against specific criteria though their units of work.

“When (using marking guides for) making judgements about student responses, teachers match evidence in student work against the task-specific descriptors.”

“It is not appropriate to use diagnostic testing [PAT tests, South Australian tests or other diagnostic tests] to ‘value add’ to a student’s reported level of achievement unless the evidence provided aligns closely with content descriptions that students have had the opportunity to learn.”  

CVC Assessment and Reporting

**Celebrating successes - our school of quiet achievers**

I wanted to conclude by making reference to the quality of outcomes our school has been quietly accruing over the semester, and particularly this term. On a regular basis in the newsletter we include articles about groups of students or individuals doing well at competitions. We don’t always come first, but when listed here all together, I’m sure you’ll agree with me that Walkerston State School students do a very creditable job of having a go, doing their best, and achieving outcomes worth celebrating. So far this semester, our students have achieved the following:

- First in Pioneer Valley for cross country, including many age champions and students selected on the PV Cross Country team.
- From the regional Cross Country championships, Alice Pullen gained selection on the CQ team.
- School Captain Sean Baker gaining selection in the Capricornia Rugby League team, which will compete in the regional championships in Goondiwindi during the winter holidays.
- We came third in the entire Mackay District at the Junior McDonalds Maths competition, demonstrating the quality of our students’ Maths abilities over a number of schools bigger than us.
- Our school’s chess team also placed third overall last week at the regional tournament, with Sean Baker achieving first place and Jye Barker a merit award.
- Tait Poli has achieved selection in the Mackay team to compete in the Capricornia Touch Football trials.
- Callum Proctor has been selected in the Capricornia team for Football (Soccer).
- Hayden Pullen 3rd place in Japanese Handwriting Competition. Our instrumental students competed this week in Fanfare and participates in the Junior Megaband yesterday.

These achievements are a few of what our students have achieved. Outside of school we continue to hear of successes in a variety of endeavours like Athletics, BMX and Dancing.

From above you can see the students of Walkerston State School demonstrate their flair for having a go at many and varied activities with some achieving success at very high levels.
**P&C News - School Fair Donations**

The school fair is fast approaching and the P&C are trying something new this year to make it a great success.

As you would have read in last week’s newsletter, a competition has commenced for a class to **win a pizza party**. The P&C committee has had another look at our wish list and competition details have now been reworked and finalized. We realize that some classes may have already been sent a note home asking for specific donations. We only ask for what your family can afford. All contributions are greatly appreciated.

The following points will be allocated to the class when a donation is received.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Donations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Packets of chocolate, Packets of lollies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Grocery Items (Please check expiry dates)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Neatly presented Bottles filled with suitable items e.g. lollies, biscuits, small prizes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Donations that will be able to be used for cent sale prizes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Larger Donations that can be used for raffle prizes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Home Bake Stall**

Neatly presented home baked goods sell well at the school fair. Suitable baked goods such as slices, biscuits, toffees, etc will be asked to be brought in on the Friday before the fair. Every student will receive 3 points for each home baked item brought in. **(Please note – It is a requirement that all baked goods must have all ingredients listed on them. Any item brought in without ingredients listed will not be used therefore points will not be allocated.)**

Look out for requests in the coming weeks that can earn your class bonus points.

Feel free to start bringing items in to your classroom. It would be great to see all donations in by Friday 18 July.

Once again P&C would like to thank all families for their generous donations towards the success of the school fair.

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**Japanese Handwriting Competition**

This term, students had the opportunity to enter the annual Mackay Regional Language Network Japanese and Chinese Handwriting Competition. Students studying Japanese or Chinese in grades 5 -12 from 15 different schools within the district entered. Students studying Japanese were given an entry form which had a Japanese Haiku poem written in the Hiragana script alphabet. Students had to copy the Haiku poem in their neatest Hiragana writing. The winning entries from each year level will be displayed at the Mackay show.

Walkerston had 22 grade 6 and 7 students enter this competition. Congratulations to the following students who had a go... each student will receive a certificate and a freddo frog for their participation.

**Year 6**
Chloe Davis  
Kane Parkins  
Kaiu Tipa  
Hayden Pullen  
Marissa White  
Sam Townsend  
Ryan Creber  
Ethan Kay

**Year 7**
CJ Single  
Joshua Harding  
Jamison Harder  
Emmersen McDonald  
Jessica Grech  
Rebecca Kucks  
Jessica Moyle

A special congratulations goes to Hayden Pullen who came third overall in the grade 6 level. He will receive a certificate and a prize.
### Student of the Week Awards for Term 2 — Week 6 and Week 7

**Prep A**
- *Izaak Craig* for working hard to learn his sight words and using them in his reading and writing.
- *Lilah Noy* for working hard to learn her sight words and using them in her reading and writing.

**Prep B**
- *Tyler Cooper* for trying really hard to learn his sight words.

**Prep C**
- *Lewis Springs* for putting a lot of effort into all classroom activities.
- *Hamish Petrov* for trying hard to master his sight words and showing improvement with his reading.

**Class 1A**
- *Brooke Matthews* for always putting in a top effort and trying super hard to finish her work.
- *Sarah Kucks* for being a hard worker and always trying her best.
- *Noah Williams* for putting in an incredible effort this week.

**Class 1B**
- *Maddison Lote* for being an enthusiastic participant in class.
- *Tahlia Scott* for always working quietly and conscientiously on all class activities.

**Class 2A**
- *Sienna Scriha* for placing effort into her written activities.
- *Haydyn Anderson* for showing a positive attitude towards written class activities.

**Class 2B**
- *Charli Roelandts* for producing an impressive comparative writing piece.
- *Chelsea Bostock* for always trying her hardest in all subject areas.
- *Joshua Gordon* for becoming more enthusiastic towards reading.
- *Timofey Craig* for always trying to improve his writing using sensational compound sentences.
- *Byron Knight* for working hard on his literacy retell this week.

**Class 3A**
- *Ball Morrison-Ghee* for trying so hard to learn the weekly spelling words.
- *Jeremy Woodhouse* for including fantastic vocabulary into his persuasive.
- *Maddison Bell* for always using her best manners and having a kind, happy and positive attitude.
- *Noah McNeill* for doing marvellous work with his reading.

**Class 3B**
- *Lachlan Benson* for having a positive attitude when attempting tricky tasks.
- *Mason Payne* for always giving his very best.
- *Alysha Brett* for working hard to improve her reading.
- *Emily Austin* for always trying her best and being the best student she can be.

**Class 4A**
- *Savannah Anderson* for always working quietly in class and participating eagerly in all discussions.
- *Sophie Gall* for always putting in so much effort into her schoolwork, both at home and at school.

**Class 45B**
- *Tyler Ball* for working well in Maths especially during problem solving activities.
- *Jake Dever* for working enthusiastically on his habitat diorama.
- *Lettitia Parkins* for working enthusiastically on her habitat diorama.

**Class 5A**
- *Breeanna Ferguson* for always working to the best of her ability.
- *Bryce Hart* for giving 100% in his persuasive writing task.

**Class 67B**
- *Sam Townsend* for his excellent effort and achievement in completing his English assessment.

**Class 7A**
- *Josh Harding* for a massive effort in WAVES reading group—completing 3 cards and achieving 100% for each.

### Mackay State High School Year 7 2015

If you missed the last round of Parent/Student Enrolment Interviews, you have another chance

**18th June 3:30 to 5:00pm**

Interviews must be booked through the general office.

Any queries please phone 49 579 179

### Midgets Basketball Club Sign On Championship Season

**July to November**

Walkerston State School

Friday 20th June 2014 3.00pm – 4.00pm

Season two bounces off on 23rd July

Any queries please call Liza – 0409 790 066

or Kylie – 0402 34 8152

### SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

**MR MAGIC**

Children from Prep to Yr 7 are invited to attend a magic show presented by local magician, Mr Magic.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, July 1</td>
<td>Walkerston Library 10-11am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, July 1</td>
<td>Mirani Library 2-3pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, July 2</td>
<td>Gordon White Library 10-11am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, July 3</td>
<td>Mackay City Library 10-11am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, July 4</td>
<td>Sarina Library 10-11am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bookings are essential and will open Monday, June 16.